No. 9900135

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station

Whereas, THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED DISTINCT VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED, OR TUBER PROPAGATED PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR IMPORTING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE PURPOSE , OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A HYBRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED BY THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION ACT. (84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321 ET SEQ.)

SOYBEAN

'MFS-553'

In Testimony Whereof, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the* Plant Variety Protection Office *to be affixed at the City of Washington, D.C. this fifth day of February, in the year two thousand two.*

Attest:

Commissioner
Plant Variety Protection Office
Agricultural Marketing Service

Secretary of Agriculture

REPRODUCE LOCALLY. *Include form number and date on all reproductions.* FORM APPROVED - OMB NO. 0581-

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SCIENCE DIVISION - PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

APPLICATION FOR PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATE

(Instructions and information collection burden statement on reverse)

The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy A... 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a).

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety prote... certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confide... until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).

1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) *(as it is to appear on the Certificate)*
Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station

2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER
V93-0386

3. VARIETY NAME
MFS-553

4. ADDRESS *(Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP Code, and Country)*
College of Ag. and Life Sciences
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ.
Blacksburg, VA 24061

5. TELEPHONE *(include area code)*
540-231-6336

6. FAX *(include area code)*
540-231-4163

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PVPO NUMBER: 135

FILING DATE: 1/8/99

FEE RECEIVED
FILING AND EXAMINATION FEE: $ 2450.00
DATE: 1/8/99
CERTIFICATION FEE: $ 320.00
DATE: 12/18/01

7. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME
Glycine max

8. FAMILY NAME *(Botanical)*
Leguminosae

8. CROP KIND NAME *(Common name)*
Soybeans

10. IF THE APPLICANT NAMED IS NOT A "PERSON", GIVE FORM OF ORGANIZATION *(corporation, partnership, association, etc.) (Common name)*
Agricultural Experiment Station

11. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE STATE OF INCORPORATION

12. DATE OF INCORPORATION

13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVE(S), IF ANY, TO SERVE IN THIS APPLICATION AND RECEIVE ALL PAPERS
Glenn R. Buss
Crop & Soil Environmental Sciences Dept.
Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ.
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0404

14. TELEPHONE *(include area code)*
540-231-9788

15. FAX *(include area code)*
540-231-3431

16. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED *(Follow instructions on reverse)*

- a. ☑ Exhibit A. Origin and Breeding History of the Variety
- b. ☑ Exhibit B. Statement of Distinctness
- c. ☑ Exhibit C. Objective Description of the Variety
- d. ☐ Exhibit D. Additional Description of the Variety
- e. ☑ Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of the Applicant's Ownership
- f. ☑ Voucher Sample *(2,500 viable untreated seeds or, for tuber propagated varieties verification that tissue culture will be deposited and maintained in a public repository)*
- g. ☑ Filing and Examination Fee ($2,450), made payable to "Treasurer of the United States" *(Mail to PVPO)*

17. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY, AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED? *(See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Protection Act)?*
☐ YES *(If "yes," answer items 18 and 19 below)* ☒ NO *(If "no," go to item 20)*

18. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS?
☐ YES ☒ NO

19. IF "YES" TO ITEM 18, WHICH CLASSES OF PRODUCTION BEYOND BREEDER SEED?
☐ FOUNDATION ☐ REGISTERED ☐ CERTIFIED

20. HAS THE VARIETY OR A HYBRID PRODUCED FROM THE VARIETY BEEN RELEASED, USED, OFFERED FOR SALE, OR MARKETED IN THE U.S. OR OTHER COUNTRIES?
☒ YES *(If "yes," give names of countries and dates)* ☐ NO
United States March 1998

21. The applicant(s) declare that a viable sample of basic seed of the variety will be furnished with application and will be replenished upon request in accordance with such regulations as may be applicable, or for a tuber propagated variety a tissue culture will be deposited in a public repository and maintained for the duration of the certificate.

The undersigned applicant(s) is(are) the owner(s) of this sexually reproduced or tuber propagated plant variety, and believe(s) that the variety is new, distinct, uniform, and stable as required in Section 41, and is entitled to protection under the provisions of Section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act.

Applicant(s) is(are) informed that false representation herein can jeopardize protection and result in penalties.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT *(Owner(s))*		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT *(Owner(s))*	
R. Q. Cannell			
NAME *(Please print or type)*		NAME *(Please print or type)*	
R. Q. Cannell			
CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE	CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE
DIRECTOR, VA. AGRIC. EXPT. STA.	JAN. 5, 1999		

SD-470 (04-86) *(Previous editions are to be destroyed)* *(See reverse for instructions and information collection burden statement)*

Exhibit A

Origin and Breeding History of MFS-553

MFS-553 originated from a single F_5 plant from the cross of Essex x Camp. The cross was made in the field in 1988 and the F_1 was grown in the field in 1989. The F_2 was grown in the field in 1990 and a few pods were harvested from each plant. The harvested seeds were threshed and screened through a 14/64" round hole screen and the seeds passing through the screen were planted and grown in the greenhouse in the winter of 1990-91. Harvested seeds were planted as a bulk F_4 population in the field and a sample of pods from most of the plants was hand-picked and threshed. These seeds were screened and those that passed through a 14/64" screen were planted in bulk in the field in 1992. Individual plants from this population were threshed and planted in progeny rows in 1993. From the 106 rows, 26 were selected for apparent agronomic potential as well as for uniformity in flower, pubescence and pod color, plant height and overall appearance. After harvest, 11 lines were discarded for having either imperfect black hila or seed size greater than 9 g/100 seeds. The remaining lines were grown in a preliminary yield test at one location in 1994. V93-0386 was among those lines and was selected to be grown in the advanced yield test at four locations in 1995. Based on available data, V93-0386 and three other lines were chosen to grow seed increases in Costa Rica in the winter of 1995-96. The returned seed was planted in 1996 on about 0.2 acre at Mt. Holly, VA. The plot was rogued for any off-type plants and the seed harvested was considered Breeder Seed. The first Foundation Seed was produced in 1997.

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MFS-553 is most similar to Camp, another maturity group V variety with small seeds and narrow leaves. However, there are two major traits by which the two varieties differ, the primary one being plant height. MFS-553 has averaged 69 cm in height while Camp has averaged only 58 cm, a difference of 11 cm. Also, seed size of MFS-553 is larger than Camp. Averaged over recent field tests, MFS-553 seed size has been 8.0 gm/100 vs. 7.2 gm/100 for Camp, a statistically significant difference at P=.001.

FORM APPROVED: OMB NO. 0581-0055

EXHIBIT C
(Soybean)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
~~LIVESTOCK, MEAT, GRAIN & SEED DIVISION~~
PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY
SOYBEAN (Glycine max L.)

NAME OF APPLICANT(S)	TEMPORARY DESIGNATION	VARIETY NAME
Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station	V93-0386	MFS-553

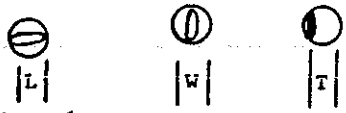
ADDRESS *(Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and Zip Code)*
College of Ag. and Life Sciences
VPI & SU
Blacksburg, VA 24061

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
PVPO NUMBER 9900135

Choose the appropriate response which characterizes the variety in the features described below. When the number of significant digits in your answer is fewer than the number of boxes provided, place a zero in the first box when number is 9 or less (e.g., [0][9]). Starred characters ★ are considered fundamental to an adequate soybean variety description. Other characters should be described when information is available.

1. SEED SHAPE:

[1]



1 = Spherical (L/W, L/T, and T/W ratios = < 1.2)
2 = Spherical Flattened (L/W ratio > 1.2; L/T ratio = < 1.2)
3 = Elongate (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W = < 1.2)
4 = Elongate Flattened (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W > 1.2)

★ **2. SEED COAT COLOR: (Mature Seed)**

[1] 1 = Yellow 2 = Green 3 = Brown 4 = Black 5 = Other *(Specify)* _____

3. SEED COAT LUSTER: (Mature Hand Shelled Seed)

[1] 1 = Dull ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton') 2 = Shiny ('Nebsoy'; 'Gasoy 17')

★ **4. SEED SIZE: (Mature Seed)**

[ ][8] Grams per 100 seeds

★ **5. HILUM COLOR: (Mature Seed)**

[2] 1 = Buff 2 = Yellow 3 = Brown 4 = Gray 5 = Imperfect Black 6 = Black 7 = Other *(Specify)* _____

★ **6. COTYLEDON COLOR: (Mature Seed)**

[1] 1 = Yellow 2 = Green

★ **7. SEED PROTEIN PEROXIDASE ACTIVITY:**

[ ] 1 = Low 2 = High

★ **8. SEED PROTEIN ELECTROPHORETIC BAND:**

[ ] 1 = Type A ($SP1^a$) 2 = Type B ($SP1^b$)

★ **9. HYPOCOTYL COLOR:**

[3] 1 = Green only ('Evans'; 'Davis') 2 = Green with bronze band below cotyledons ('Woodworth'; 'Tracy')
3 = Light Purple below cotyledons ('Beeson'; 'Pickett 71')
4 = Dark Purple extending to unifoliate leaves ('Hodgson'; 'Coker Hampton 266A')

★ **10. LEAFLET SHAPE:**

[1] 1 = Lanceolate 2 = Oval 3 = Ovate 4 = Other *(Specify)* _____

11. LEAFLET SIZE:

[2] 1 = Small ('Amsoy 71'; 'A5312') 2 = Medium ('Corsoy 79'; 'Gasoy 17')
3 = Large ('Crawford'; 'Tracy')

12. LEAF COLOR:

[2] 1 = Light Green ('Weber'; 'York') 2 = Medium Green ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton')
3 = Dark Green ('Gnome'; 'Tracy')

★ **13. FLOWER COLOR:**

[2] 1 = White 2 = Purple 3 = White with purple throat

★ **14. POD COLOR:**

[1] 1 = Tan 2 = Brown 3 = Black

★ **15. PLANT PUBESCENCE COLOR:**

[1] 1 = Gray 2 = Brown (Tawny)

16. PLANT TYPES:

[1] 1 = Slender ('Essex'; 'Amsoy 71') 2 = Intermediate ('Amcor'; 'Braxton')
3 = Bushy ('Gnome'; 'Govan')

★ **17. PLANT HABIT:**

[1] 1 = Determinate ('Gnome'; 'Braxton') 2 = Semi-Determinate ('Will')
3 = Indeterminate ('Nebsoy'; 'Improved Pelican')

★ **18. MATURITY GROUP:**

[8] 1 = 000 2 = 00 3 = 0 4 = I 5 = II 6 = III 7 = IV 8 = V
9 = VI 10 = VII 11 = VIII 12 = IX 13 = X

★ **19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)**

BACTERIAL DISEASES:

★ [0] Bacterial Pustule *(Xanthomonas phaseoli* var. *sojensis)*

★ [0] Bacterial Blight *(Pseudomonas glycinea)*

★ [0] Wildfire *(Pseudomonas tabaci)*

FUNGAL DISEASES:

★ [0] Brown Spot *(Septoria glycines)*

Frogeye Leaf Spot *(Cercospora sojina)*

★ [0] Race 1 [ ] Race 2 [ ] Race 3 [ ] Race 4 [ ] Race 5 [ ] Other *(Specify)* _____

[0] Target Spot *(Corynespora cassiicola)*

[0] Downy Mildew *(Peronospora trifoliorum* var. *manshurica)*

[0] Powdery Mildew *(Microsphaera diffusa)*

★ [0] Brown Stem Rot *(Cephalosporium gregatum)*

[0] Stem Canker *(Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *caulivora)*

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19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant) (Continued)

FUNGAL DISEASES: (Continued)

★ [0] Pod and Stem Blight *(Diaporthe phaseolorum* var; *sojae)*

[0] Purple Seed Stain *(Cercospora kikuchii)*

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[0] Rhizoctonia Root Rot *(Rhizoctonia solani)*

Phytophthora Rot *(Phytophthora megasperma* var. *sojae)*

★ [0] Race 1 [0] Race 2 [0] Race 3 [0] Race 4 [0] Race 5 [0] Race 6 [0] Race 7

[0] Race 8 [0] Race 9 [0] Other *(Specify)* _____

VIRAL DISEASES:

[0] Bud Blight (Tobacco Ringspot Virus)

[0] Yellow Mosaic (Bean Yellow Mosaic Virus)

★ [0] Cowpea Mosaic (Cowpea Chlorotic Virus)

[0] Pod Mottle (Bean Pod Mottle Virus)

★ [1] Seed Mottle (Soybean Mosaic Virus)

NEMATODE DISEASES:

Soybean Cyst Nematode *(Heterodera glycines)*

★ [0] Race 1 [0] Race 2 [0] Race 3 [0] Race 4 [0] Other *(Specify)* _____

[0] Lance Nematode *(Hoplolaimus Colombus)*

★ [0] Southern Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne incognita)*

★ [0] Northern Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne Hapla)*

[0] Peanut Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne arenaria)*

[0] Reniform Nematode *(Rotylenchulus reniformis)*

[ ] OTHER DISEASE NOT ON FORM *(Specify)*: _____

20. PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

★ [0] Iron Chlorosis on Calcareous Soil

[0] Other *(Specify)* _____

21. INSECT REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

[0] Mexican Bean Beetle *(Epilachna varivestis)*

[0] Potato Leaf Hopper *(Empoasca fabae)*

[0] Other *(Specify)* _____

22. INDICATE WHICH VARIETY MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES THAT SUBMITTED.

CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY	CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY
Plant Shape	Camp	Seed Coat Luster	Camp
Leaf Shape	Camp	Seed Size	Camp
Leaf Color	Camp	Seed Shape	Camp
Leaf Size	Camp	Seedling Pigmentation	Camp

23. GIVE DATA FOR SUBMITTED AND SIMILAR STANDARD VARIETY: Paired Comparison Data

VARIETY	NO. OF DAYS MATURITY	PLANT LODGING SCORE	CM PLANT HEIGHT	LEAFLET SIZE		SEED CONTENT		SEED SIZE G/100 SEEDS	NO. SEEDS/ POD
				CM Width	CM Length	% Protein	% Oil		
Submitted MFS-553	150	2.5	69	18.1	5.8	42.7	19.6	8.0	
Name of Similar Variety Camp	150	2.0	58	17.0	5.4	42.9	19.2	7.2	

PUBLICATIONS USEFUL AS REFERENCE AIDS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:

1. Caldwell, B.E., ed. 1973. Soybeans: Improvement, Production, and Uses. Amer. Soc. Agron. Monograph No. 16.
2. Buttery, B.R. and R.I. Buzzell. 1968. Peroxidase activity in seeds of soybean varieties. Crop Sci., 8: 722-725.
3. Hymowitz, T. 1973. Electrophoretic analysis of SBTI-A_2 in the USDA soybean germplasm collection. Crop Sci., 13: 420-421.
4. Payne, R.C. and L.F. Morris. 1976. Differentiation of soybean cultivars by seedling pigmentation patterns. J. Seed Technol. 1: 1-19.

3- JAN 66.

USDA-AM

Virginia Tech
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
(540) 231-6305 Fax: (540) 231-3431

September 19, 2001

Dr. Jeffrey L. Strachan
Plant Variety Protection Office
NAL Bldg., Rm. 401
10301 Baltimore Blvd.
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

Dear Dr. Strachan:

This is in response to your request for additional data comparing 'MFS-553' with 'Camp' for plant height and seed size. Both cultivars were grown in the same experiments in 1997, 1998, and 1999. Four Virginia locations with three replications were grown in each year. The table below is a summary of the performance of both cultivars in each year and overall.

	Average plant height (cm)			
Cultivar	1997	1998	1999	3-yr. avg.
Camp	52.8	55.9	59.7	56.1
MFS-553	64.5	69.6	69.6	68.1
LSD .05	3.3	3.9	3.2	2.0
	Average seed size (g/100 seeds)			
Camp	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.6
MFS-553	8.4	8.7	8.5	8.5
LSD .05	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2

Although there is some variation from year to year, I believe the differences between Camp and MFS-553 are very consistent. MFS-553 is typically about 12 cm taller than Camp and its seeds are about one g per 100 seeds larger than Camp. The differences each year and overall for both traits are several times the LSD for the 5% level of probability. A standard ANOVA using only these two entries over all tests provided F values for entries of 98.3 and 85.2 for plant height and seed size, respectively. Both of these have P values of less than 0.0001.

These analyses are very typical of those used by plant breeders, and I believe the results make it very clear that MFS-553 and Camp could be readily distinguished from each other when grown side-by-side in the field.

I believe these data should be adequate to satisfy your request. If there are any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

G. R. Buss,
Professor

jab

REPRODUCE LOCALLY. Include form number and edition date on all reproductions. FORM APPROVED - OMB No. 0581-0055

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

EXHIBIT E
STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF OWNERSHIP

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued *(7 U.S.C. 2421)*. The information is held confidential until the certificate is issued *(7 U.S.C. 2426)*.

1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S)	2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER	3. VARIETY NAME
Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Inc.	V93-0386	MFS-553
4. ADDRESS *(Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP, and Country)*	**5. TELEPHONE** *(Include area code)*	**6. FAX** *(Include area code)*
1872 Pratt Drive, Suite 1625 Blacksburg, VA 24060	540-951-9374	540-951-5292
	7. PVPO NUMBER	

8. Does the applicant own all rights to the variety? Mark an "X" in the appropriate block. **If no, please explain** [X] YES [ ]

9. Is the applicant (individual or company) a U.S. National or a U.S. based company? **If no, give name of country** [X] **YES** [ ] NO

10. Is the applicant the original owner? [ ] YES [X] NO **If no, please answer one of the following:**

a. If the original rights to variety were owned by individual(s), is (are) the original owner(s) a U.S. National(s)?

[X] YES [ ] NO **If no, give name of country**

b. If the original rights to variety were owned by a company(ies), is (are) the original owner(s) a U.S. based company?

[X] YES [ ] NO **If no, give name of country**

11. Additional explanation on ownership *(If needed, use the reverse for extra space)*:

PLEASE NOTE:

Plant variety protection can only be afforded to the owners (not licensees) who meet the following criteria:

1. If the rights to the variety are owned by the original breeder, that person must be a U.S. national, national of a UPOV member country, or national of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species.

2. If the rights to the variety are owned by the company which employed the original breeder(s), the company must be U.S. based, owned by nationals of a UPOV member country, or owned by nationals of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species.

3. If the applicant is an owner who is not the original owner, both the original owner and the applicant must meet one of the above criteria.

The original breeder/owner may be the individual or company who directed the final breeding. See Section 41(a)(2) of the Plant Variety Protection Act for definitions.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 6 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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